Dispute over the Palar river waters

* 2209 *Q.*—SRI S. PAKKIRISWAMY PILLAI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Chief Engineer of the Madras State has been deputed to inspect the upper reaches of the Palar river jointly with the Engineers of the Mysore State; and

(*b*) the latest suggestions made by the Union Government in connexion with the dispute over the Palar waters between Madras and Mysore States?

THE HON. SRI R. SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—" (*a*) No.

" (*b*) The Government of India have suggested that the Chief Engineers of the two States may meet and discuss the question of utilization of the Palar waters and that if it would be of help, the Government of India would depute one of their technical officers to be present at the discussion."

* 2210 *Q.*—SRI N. K. PALANISAMY: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether any meeting of the Chief Engineers of Mysore and Madras regarding the sharing of the waters of the Palar river is proposed to be held; and

(*b*) if so, whether the Government will be pleased to place the details of the agreements reached, if any, on the table of the House?

THE HON. SRI R. SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—" (*a*) Yes.

" (*b*) The details of the agreement can be known only after the meeting is held and an agreement is reached."

* 2211 *Q.*—SRI M. KALYANASUNDARAM: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the talks with the Mysore State Government regarding the sharing of the Palar river waters have taken place; and

(*b*) if so, with what results?

THE HON. SRI R. SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—" (*a*) No.

" (*b*) Does not arise."

SRI N. K. PALANISAMY :—" மார்ச் மாதம் 6-ந் தேதி மைசூர் ராஜ்ய ரெவினியூ மந்திரி அவர்கள் சட்டசபையில் பேசும்போது இதுமாதிரி ஏற்கெனவே எங்களுக்கு ஒப்பந்தம் இருக்கிறது அந்த ஒப்பந்தப்பிரகாரம் சென்னை சர்க்கார்தான் எங்களிடம் கலந்து பே வில்லை. நாங்கள் எப்பொழுதும் அவர்களிடம் இது பற்றி பேசத் தயாராய் இருக்கிறோம் என்று சொன்னார்கள். அதன் அடிப்படையில் தற்போது சென்னை சர்க்கார் மைசூர் சர்க்காருடன் கலந்து பேச நடவடிக்கை எடுப்பார்களா ? அல்லது இதற்கு முன்பே எதாவது அணுகினது உண்டா ? "

THE HON. SRI R. SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—"அதன் விளைவுதான் இரு ராஜ்ய சர்க்கார்களின் பிரமத இன்ஜினியர்களும் சந்திக்கப்போவது."

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SRI S. PAKKIRISWAMY PILLAI :—" May I know whether a joint report by the two engineers has been sent to the Government and, if so, whether it will be made available for perusal by hon. Members of this House? "

THE HON. SRI R. SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—" I have already stated that they have not yet met. The present proposal is for them to meet and then only the question of a report will come in."

SRI K. VINAYAKAM :—" On which date was this decision taken that the two respective engineers should meet and discuss this problem and how long do they propose to delay like this? "

THE HON. SRI R. SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—" I cannot give any date with reference to the question. The Government of India have suggested the meeting of the two Chief Engineers belonging to the respective States and they have been corresponding with each other to agree on a date and a place to meet. It is being pushed through as expeditiously as possible and there is no delay on the part of anybody in respect of this matter."

SRI K. VINAYAKAM :—" May I know whether I can at least have an assurance from this Cabinet that the meeting of the engineers will take place before the life of this House expires? "

THE HON. SRI R. SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—" I do not see any reason why the hon. Member should be so sceptic."

SRI S. DAIVASIGAMONEY :—" With regard to this matter a committee has been formed consisting of ryots of Chingleput and North Arcot districts. Will these persons be allowed to take part in the conference of the two Chief Engineers belonging to the respective Madras and Mysore States or at least a representative of them? "

THE HON. SRI R. SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—" It is not possible to do so because the Chief Minister of the Mysore State has objected to it. It is purely a technical matter. Technical men are meeting first and after we receive a report from them, we will consider other ways of arranging a meeting with either the representatives of the ryots concerned or the representatives of this House and so on and so forth."

Construction of roads in Ponneri taluk

* 2212 *Q.*—SRI S. PAKKIRISWAMY PILLAI : Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Administration be pleased to state—

(*a*) when the proposal for the formation of the metalled road connecting Sathyavedu and Bethelapuram in Ponneri taluk, Chingleput district, was sanctioned;

(*b*) what are the reasons for not having the road work completed; and

(*c*) when the road will be completed?